

## **IDPPE, Mozambique:**

### **Institutional Support & Capacity Building for the Fisheries Sector**

Mozambique is one of the poorest countries in the world with a current population of 18.3 million, out of which, 10 million are still living in extreme poverty (Mozambican Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP, 2005). Agriculture and rural development comprise almost 25% of the GDP and employ over 80% of the labour force. The artisanal fisheries sub-sector alone employs 100,000 people as small-scale fishermen, fish processors, and fish marketers. It is estimated that artisanal fisheries accounts for 5% of GDP. In Mozambique, 70% of the population lives in coastal zones and relies on marine and inland fishing as a source of income and employment. At least one million Mozambicans are directly or indirectly engaged in or benefit from fishing activities. As a result, the fisheries sector has a key role to play in poverty reduction through its contribution to household food security and livelihoods for poor communities constantly ravaged by drought and hunger.

Despite its significant contribution to the economy and local consumption, the small-scale fisheries sector is still far below its potential. One of the most critical issues has been the lack of technical capacity. Since Independence in 1975, Government had made efforts to strengthen the sub sector in terms of human resources. This includes the creation of the Fishing School and courses in the State University. The dynamics of the sub sector economy and the growing number of local fishermen and extension activities have long demanded more qualified staff and more capacity building in this sector to improve performance of fishing activities. The current specific difficulties encountered by the fishing communities and IDPPE in Mozambique can be grouped as follows:

- **Inadequate community development aspects**, e.g. lack of services (health, water and education facilities); weakness in conflict management; and poor access conditions (roads)
- **Poor fisheries technologies**, fish conservation and processing - catch rates are decreasing,
- **Lack of access to markets**, e.g.: availability of fishing equipment; structures for fish trading; and lack of linkages between the small-scale fisheries and the private sector market outlets,
- **Inadequate institutional and organisational capacity of IDPPE and fishermen community**, e.g.: lack of technical, managerial and institutional capacity to successfully service the artisanal fisheries sub-sector.



This project aims to reduce poverty and to support disadvantaged and marginalised communities in Mozambique through increasing the productivity of the small scale fisheries sub sector. The project will provide institutional support and capacity building for the National Institute for the development of small scale fisheries (IDPPE), and fishing groups with the aim of improving their internal organisation, strengthening their financial management, planning and developing their analytical and policy framework capacities thus enhancing their assistance to the small scale fisheries sub sector in Mozambique. This in turn will improve productivity of the sector and contribute to poverty reduction.

The project will recruit and place expertise in fisheries technology, legal, advocacy and conflict management with IDPPE local counterparts to train, coach and mentor them on how to work with the fishing communities to raise awareness of their rights.

### **Main Project Results**

**Result 1.** Improved fishing and fish processing methods

- Decreased fish losses post harvest at the project areas
- Increased fish production and processing at project areas
- 40 IDPPE extension workers trained in new methods
- 10,000 fishermen and women trained in new methods and fishing equipment
- The turnover of fish products in the project areas is increased by 40%

**Result 2.** Legal and policy systems developed to assist fishing communities to address issues related to fishing activities. Fishermen and women trained in sustainable fisheries management, new and existing fisheries associations assisted to register and legalise their status, extension workers and field officers of IDPPE trained in policies and law of fisheries,

**Result 3.** Improved Marketing opportunities for artisanal fisheries

- Prices and availability of fish products and inputs disseminated regularly and systematically, improving awareness of fishing community
- More fisher people with sustainable access to markets.

**Result 4.** Capacity of IDPPE and Fishing groups for sustainable fisheries management strengthened

- 30 co-management committees established and supported in project areas
- Increase in local people and fishing groups represented in management structures of fisheries
- 600 community managers trained in local resource management
- 24 Senior managers of IDPPE identified and trained in leadership and governance